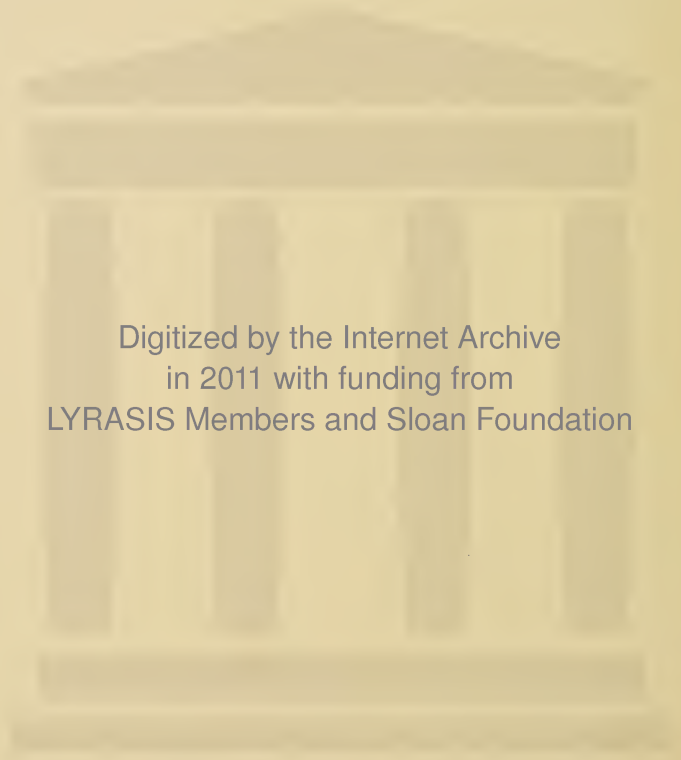

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ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SELMA

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

SIXTH SESSION.

TOWN CREEK CHURCH,
AUGUST 7, 8 AND 9, 1888.

Meets next year with Orrville Baptist Church, in West Dallas County. Easy of access by rail.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
THE BAPTIST JOB PRINTING COMPANY.
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MINUTES

OF

SELMA ASSOCIATION FOR 1888.

TOWN CREEK CHURCH, Aug. 7, 1888.

By order of last session, delegates to this Association assembles with this church to-day. At 11 o'clock Brother S. J. Catts preached the Missionary Sermon.

At 1:30 P. M. Brother Catts moved to make Brother A. D. Lawhon, temporary Moderator, and J. M. McIver, Clerk.

Letters from the churches were read and delegates enrolled as follows:

Benton.—W. H. May, R. E. Bostwick.
Bethany.—A. Edwards, D. Rast, J. O. Robertson, J W. Todd, D. Lyon.
Centre Ridge.—Rev. J. E. Chambliss, J. P. Melton, J. C. Yates.
Mt. Gilead.—Jas. Bryant, H. W. Edwards, A. D. Lawhon, J. A. May, M. H. Traylor.
Orrville.—C. T. Munnerlyn, W. F. Moseley, G. W. Burt, J. W. McIver. (Enrolled after reception.)
Pleasant Hill.—J. W. Bailey, U. J. Crumpton, L. E. Barnes.
Providence.—Rev. W. G. Curry, Lewis Johnson, Walter Moseley, G. H. Averyt.
Selma.—T. L. Bailey, J. W. Hudson, E. Lamar, Frank M. Hudson, Hugh H. Hudson.
Shiloh.—Rev. S. J. Catts, P. W. Johnson, Ryley Stone, John Wood, F. S. Becton, Henry Miley.
Sister Springs.—Daniel Smoke, Luther Grumbles.
Town Creek.—Rev. J. M. Fortune, J T. Pierce, R. B. Hardy, W. C. Stewart, J. F. Ellis, J. W. Quarles.

Rev. J. M. Fortune moved that Brother J. W. Hudson cast vote of Association for A. D. Lawhon, Moderator; J. M. McIver, Clerk; J. F. Ellis, Treasurer. So ordered. Brother Lawhon expressed thanks, &c., and called for business.

An Order of Business was proposed by Brother J. M. Fortune, which was adopted and used.

Brother J. F. Ellis called attention to resolution offered last year to amend Constitution regulating delegation.

Brother Fortune moved to suspend regular order of business

long enough to adopt resolution, as committee reported it. This was carried. and also the pending motion to adopt.

Applications for membership were next called for.

Orrville Baptist Church (new church) applied, was received, and her delegates given seats.

CORRESPONDENCE.

State Board, W. B. Crumpton ; Ministerial Education, G. S. Anderson and J. E. Chambliss ; Howard College, B. H. Crumpton.

Brother B. H. Crumpton was received as visitor from Conecuh Association.

Delegates from this to other bodies were appointed. Brother J. M. Fortune to Conecuh ; J. C. Yates and U. J. Crumpton to Pine Barren Association.

J. M. Fortune and S. J. Catts were appointed to get up list of delegates to represent us in next State Convention, which will meet in Selma, in November, 1889.

They report as follows :

M. H. Traylor, W. H. May, Miles Hardy, Jr., J. R. Crumpton, J. C. Yates, R. B. Hardy, David Lyon, E. Lamar, Lewis Johnson, J. B. Ellis.

Brother J. M. Fortune was elected delegate by acclamation to the Southern Baptist Convention.

The following committees were appointed to report at this meeting :

On State of Religion in the Churches.—S. J. Catts, Ernest Lamar, U. J. Crumpton.

On Documents.—J. W. Bailey, Miles Hardy, J. C. Yates.

On Religious Exercises.—A. Edwards with pastor and deacons of Town Creek church.

Finance Committee.—Lewis Johnson, M. H. Traylor, J. A. May.

Time and Place.—J. W. Hudson, Alfred Edwards, W. F. Moseley, Walton Moseley, J. W. Bailey.

Vacancies on standing committees were supplied as follows :

Dr. J. E. Chambliss, by order, was appointed to report on Sunday schools in Brother W. R. Hardy's absence. In the absence of Brother B. F. Ellis, Brother W. G Curry was asked to report on Missions.

Bro. J. F. Ellis made Treasurer's report, which was adopted

TREASURER'S REPORT.

J. F. ELLIS to Selma Association.

DR.

1887.				
Aug.	10.	To	general collection for missions.....	$ 18 70
"	"	"	Cash and other collections from Finance Com.	13 85
"	"	"	For minutes...	16 00
				$ 48 55

CR.

1887.				
Aug.	10.	By vouchers	No. 1, from W. R. Crumpton...	$ 18 70
"	"	" "	" 2, " " " " ...	13 85
"	"	Cash to I. R. Eskew	.....	16 00
				$48 55

Respectfully submitted,
J. F. ELLIS, Treas. Selma Association.

Rev. J. M. Fortune, from committee on Religious Exercises, next made a partial report.

The committee on Hospitality, from Town Creek Church, Brother J. F. Ellis, Chairman, reported, assigning delegates to homes

After remarks and prayer by Brother B. H. Crumpton, adjourned to meet at 9:30 a. m. to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY.

9:30 A. M. Religious exercises were conducted by Brother Catts until 10 o'clock, when the body was called to order for business.

Minutes of yesterday's session were read and adopted.

Moved by Brother Lewis Johnson, and carried, that we reconsider resolution adopted yesterday to amend Constitution. By order, Brethren Fortune, Curry, Chambliss and Catts were appointed to draw up amendment in proper form.

Committee on Missions being unprepared, discussion of the subject was taken up without report.

Under this head Brother W. B. Crumpton spoke on State Missions and asked this Association for $1100.

Brother W. G. Curry next preached the Missionary Sermon, after which a collection was taken, securing $30.00.

Adjourned for dinner.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Song. Report of committee on Time and Place of next meeting was called for and adopted as read, which was as follows:

REPORT ON TIME AND PLACE.

Your Committee appointed to select time and place for the next session of this Association beg leave to report, as follows:

Time, Tuesday before the Second Sunday in August, 1888. Place, Orville, Dallas county, Alabama. To preach Introductory Sermon, J. E. Chambliss; Missionary Sermon, J. M. Fortune.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. Hudson,
J. W. Bailey,
L. W. Moseley,
W. F. Moseley,
A. Edwards,
Committee.

Roll called and corrected.

Rev. J. M. Fortune then read resolution as arranged by committee, which was adopted with slight change. (See Constitution, Art. 2.)

Committee on Religious Exercises made final report. It provided for preaching every night of the Association.

First business on regular order was the report on Education.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

It is unnecessary to speak of the importance of education. All know that there is nothing more essential in our civilization. It is the thing that has elevated nations ever since the world has had a history. Our education is superior to any that has preceded it, in that it is on a broad moral and religious basis. We have cause to be proud of our education in general, as a people. As a Baptist denomination, we should be proud of some of our institutions of learning, and it gives your Committee great pleasure to recommend the Judson Institute. It is very gratifying to know that the Judson is now in better condition than it ever has been. No better school can be found for the education of the girls of our State and country. We would also present to you the Howard. It seems now to be on a firm footing, and, brethren, it is our duty to give it our support and patronage.

We should be careful, too, that we give attention to Ministerial Education, in a measure at least, worthy of its great importance. Do we do what we can and should for the furtherance of this noble enterprise?

J. M. McIver, Ch'n.

Several speeches were made on Howard College. Brother Curry informed the body that the College had now $100,000.

Brother G. S. Anderson and others presented the claims of Ministerial Education. Brother W. B. Crumpton called attention to the splendid work and condition of the Judson.

Adjourned to meet at 9:30 A. M. to-morrow.

THURSDAY.

9:30 O'CLOCK A. M.

Religious exercises conducted by Brother W. G. Curry for thirty minutes.

Minutes read and adopted.

Brother Curry announced his readiness with Report on Missions, which he read.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee beg leave to report, as follows :

STATE MISSIONS.

The State Mission Board has diligently prosecuted the work of supplying the destitution in the State, employing during the year seventy-six men for all, or part, of their time. The churches have contributed something over $8,000 for this work. The building of new towns and the opening up of sections of the State by railroads call loudly upon us for more men and money. The appointment by the State Mission Board of a number of strong men in different sections of the State to do evangelistic work, we think, would greatly increase the efficiency of the State Mission work. Large contributions to State Missions would enable the Board to undertake this much needed work.

HOME MISSIONS.

This Board is laboring to supply the destitution in Florida, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and the Western Territories, and is also supporting a mission in the Island of Cuba. The work of Diaz and others in Cuba is perhaps the most wonderful work of modern times. Only a little more than two years have elapsed since the organization of the first church on that Island. Up to last May, 1,100 had been baptized. In a single year these converts have contributed $4 610. So marked has been the blessing of God upon that work, that the Board has been ordered to enlarge its work in that quarter. As we turn our eyes towards Cuba we exclaim with wonder and astonishment, "What hath God wrought!"

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

This Board is prosecuting its work in Mexico, South America, Italy, Africa and China. Some of its most valued missionaries have passed away during the past year ; but God is raising up others to take their places. The outlook in all the foreign fields is hopeful, especially so in Mexico, where the matchless missionary Powell has the work under his immediate supervision. A number of devoted men and women are now under appointment, and are ready to sail to their places among the laborers in the foreign field.

We would urge upon the pastors to get their churches to adopt some plan of regular collections for Missions, at least quarterly. As a plan which will suit the condition of most of our churches, we commend the envelope system. Your Committee believe that our churches will give liberally to Missions if the pastors will properly instruct them.

Respectfully submitted,

W. G. Curry, Ch'n.

This report was laid on the table to allow Brother Lewis Johnson to make Finance Report (which will be found on another page). This being adopted, Brother Chambliss moved to take up Report on Missions, which was well discussed.

Brother Anderson told us of a Building Board, organized last Convention, Rev. G. A. Nunnally, Treasurer, Anniston, Ala.

Report adopted.

Moderator appointed committee on apportionment, viz :

Lewis Johnson, J. W. Hudson. C. T. Munnerlyn, Miles Hardy, Joe May, Alfred Edwards, R. B. Hardy.

Report on Sunday Schools was then read by Dr. J. E. Chambliss, as follows :

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your Committee are gratified to report that all the churches of our Association have well sustained Sunday Schools, with a single exception. We would only urge on all a deeper interest in this important department of Christian service; that more than ever it be sought to make the Sunday Schools a spiritual force, and as far as possible, check all doubtful tendencies in connection with them.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMITTEE.

After discussion, the report was adopted.

Adjourned.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Meeting called to order and Report on Literature read by Brother A Edwards, as follows :

REPORT ON LITERATURE.

The morals of a people and a community are formed and governed almost absolutely by the literature they read. The power of the press in our beloved country has done, and is doing, more to elevate the sentiment of the people than any other power in existence, save the Christian religion. Tis' true, as Solomon said, "Of making books there is no end ; and much study is a weariness of the flesh," yet it is true the taste of the people is to read, and this is rapidly on the increase ; hence the imperative necessity and duty of Baptists as a denomination, and as citizens of a great and growing country, to see to it that no books, papers, or magazines of low and grovelling drift, should come into their libraries, or that of their neighbors, if they can prevent it. We know of no agency that is more vicious in its tendency to demoralize and corrupt the young, than much of the dime novels and yellow back literature that is spread broad cast over our land to-day. It is a fact that the United States has become a depository for all the outcasts and vicious of European countries. As we hear the tramp of the great influx of emigrants pressing their way to this land of freedom, it behooves us to place in their hands such periodicals and books as will ennoble and elevate the instincts of the strangers when they press their feet on our soil. It is a fact that men's piety may be measured by the literature they read, and the company they keep, hence the necessity of pure, religious literature. We would recommend to all, THE ALABAMA BAPTIST, our own paper, and we urge every Baptist in the State to take and read it. The colportage system of our State Board affords good literature to every family. We also recommend the Sunday School literature of the American Baptist Publication Society, and of our Home Board, and of Kind Words, as the best for our Baptist Sunday Schools, also our Foreign Mission Journal, and our Home Field, published by our Home Mission Board.

Respectfully submitted,

A. EDWARDS.

Several spoke on the subject, after which the report was adopted.

The Report on Temperance was next called for, but not read, the committee being absent. On motion of Brother Catts, the Clerk was ordered to write and insert a report.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Temperance in all things is good; intemperance, ugly. Godliness is reached by man only when, by God's own help, the life is held at balance between extremes. Live for good and not for appetite. Commonly temperance refers to the non use of alcoholic liquors. In that sense it is a big question, and one we must meet and face continually. It is one of our nation's questions, and as Christians we should watch the times and lend a hand to its establishment at every opportunity. Kill the gorgon intemperance with the sting of truth and manhood. It is pleasing to note that good society no longer counts a man worthy, who indulges too freely in drink. This will soon tell for good. There is no cause for temperance workers to give up the fight; a few defeats may only make the road to success safer for future travel.

Respectfully submitted,

CLERK.

The following report was read and adopted:

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your committee report the following: We find that since our last session a new church has been established at Orrville. J. E. Barnes has been licensed by Pleasant Hill Church. Orville and Mt. Gilead ask that the Association meet with them at its next regular session.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. BAILEY,
J. C. YATES,
MILES HARDY, JR.,
Committee.

Brother Lewis Johnson offered the following resolution, which was made unanimous by a standing vote:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered Town Creek church, and the surrounding community for the hospitality shown us during our session.

The following report was adopted, as read by Brother Catts:

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION IN THE CHURCHES.

We, the undersigned committee, beg leave to report: We have examined the reports of the various churches, and find that all report an increase of membership both by letter and baptism, except the Providence church, which has sustained a considerable loss in the formation of the Orville church; that the spirit of giving is on the increase but still much room for improvement. Most of the churches report good attendance at church, prayer-meeting, and Sunday School. We find that some churches have no Sunday School or prayer meeting. We urge the necessity of these when it is possible, believing that much good will result therefrom.

The information that we have had was limited, but it shows that we have both a growth of membership and spiritual growth.

Respectfully submitted,
ERNEST LAMAR,
S. J. CATTS,
U. J. CRUMPTON,
Committee.

The report of the committee on Apportionment was then read.

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

We, your committee, recommend the following amounts to be paid the coming year by the churches :

MISSIONS.

Center Ridge church	$ 50 00
Benton	15 00
Providence	100 00
Sister Springs	5 00
Shiloh	50 00
Bethany	25 00
Mt. Gilead	35 00
Pleasant Hill	80 00
Selma	600 00
Town Creek	75 00
Orville	50 00
Total	$1085 00

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Selma church	$ 150 00
Center Ridge	20 00
Town Creek	20 00
Bethany	5 00
Benton	5 00
Providence	50 00
Pleasant Hill	30 00
Sister Springs	5 00
Shiloh	15 00
Mt. Gilead	20 00
Orville	25 00
Total	$345 00

Respectfully submitted,
LEWIS JOHNSON, Ch'n.

Brother Johnson moved, that we take up an extra collection for Ministerial Education, he thereupon placing $5.00 on the table, and he was followed by others until the amount of $20.00 was reached, which was handed over to Brother Chambliss.

TOWN CREEK CHURCH, August 9, 1888.

Received of Selma Association, seventeen and a half dollars cash and two and a half dollar note for ministerial education.

Respectfully submitted,
J. E. CHAMBLISS,
For Board.

Report on Apportionment was adopted.

Brother S. J. Catts having been appointed last session chairman of committee to report at this session on result of 5th Sunday meetings in the churches, now made known his readiness to report.

REPORT ON RESULT OF FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS.

At the last session of this body a motion was made that we hold fifth Sunday meetings, throughout this Association, with its various churches. This motion was acted upon favorably by the Association. Collirene was the place where we held the first meeting. We are gratified to report four meetings since the last session, with the following results:

October, 1887, Collirene.—No accessions.	Collection	$ 8 00.
January, 1888, Mt. Gilead.—Seven accessions.	"	10 00.
April, 1888, Shiloh.—Six accessions.	"	6 00.
July, 1888, Pleasant Hill.—One accession.	"	12 75.
Total accessions 14.	Total collections	$36 75.

The next meeting is appointed to be held with Centre Ridge Church, on the 5th Sunday in September, 1888. We think that these meetings are in every way worthy of all the encouragement we, as an Association, can give them.

They build up the churches, and bring about a better spirit of brotherly love and consideration, the one for the other.

We hope that we, as an Association, will lend every endeavor to these meetings to make them a success in every particular. Surely the good results we are enabled to report in this, its first year of existence only savors of the rich abundance God is reserving for the future.

And if we are true to the spirit of these meetings, we shall yet attribute the salvation of many loved souls to the influence emanating from them.

S. J. Catts, Ch'm.

The Moderator appointed the following committees to report at the next meeting, viz:

On Missions.—Dr. J. E. Chambliss, Miles Hardy, Jr., W. R. Hardy.

Sunday Schools.—H. S. D. Mallory, D. B. Edwards, U. J. Crumpton.

Education.—S. J. Catts, W. A. Keetly, Marion Traylor.

Temperance.—J. M. Fortune, W. H. May, Alfred Edwards.

Ministerial Education.—B. F. Ellis, Law Lamar, R. E. Bostwick.

Church Building.—W. G. Curry, Joe May, C. T. Munnerlyn.

Indigent Ministers' Fund.—J. W. Stillwell, J. W. Hudson, F. S. Becton.

Literature.—J. M. McIver, Lewis Johnson, R. B. Hardy.

Money was raised for Minutes. After which the Association adjourned to meet with the Orrville church, Tuesday before the second Sunday in August, 1889.

A. D. Lawhon, Moderator.

J. M. McIver, Clerk, Orrville, Ala.

SELMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—FINANCE REPORT.

CHURCHES.	State Missions.		Home Missions.	Foreing Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Minutes.	Church Expenses.		Sabbath Schools.		Bible and Colp. Fund.	Church Building Fund.	Collections.	Value of Church Property.
	Cash	Vch'r	Vch'r	Vch'r	Vch'r	Cash.	Pastr's Sal'y.	Incid'l.	Collect'ns	Expenses.	Cash.	Cash.	Total.	
Center Ridge	$2 65	$38 60	$3 10	$3 10	$.....	$2 50	$250 00	$100 00	.....	$10 00	.40	$.....	$ 410 35	$ 3,000 00
Town Creek	.....	6 30	1 80	5 65	15 50	1 50	.....	10 85	.....	.....	.....	.....	20 60	.....
Bethany	.....	5 65	3 10	6 00	5 75	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 90	25 40	.....
Benton	.....	9 00	.....	.....	.....	75	.....	31 65	.....	.....	.....	.....	41 40	.....
Mt. Gilead	3 20	25 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	3 25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46 45	.....
Providence	.....	63 05	9 50	30 40	28 50	4 00	400 00	85 00	$22 90	14 20	.....	.....	717 35	2,000 00
Pleasant Hill	.....	21 95	9 85	13 25	25 00	3 00	.....	24 85	.....	.....	.....	.....	97 90	.....
Sister Springs	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 75	.....
Shiloh	6 92	17 10	3 60	3 60	10 00	2 50	150 00	157 00	10 00	10 00	.....	.....	370 72	.....
Selma	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,800 00	6500 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,300 00	15,000 00
Orrville	.....	7 55	.....	.....	.....	.....	200 00	964 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,171 85	1,500 00

Cash amount collected after Missionary sermon, $30; paid by Providence Church to Orphans' Home, Tuskegee, $60.60

LEWIS JOHNSON, J. A WAY, M. H. TAYLOR, Committee.

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